



ARLINGTON FINANCE COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
04/03/2023 7:30 PM  
Robert P. O'Neill Community Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Community Safety Building, 112 Mystic Street

ATTENDEES

Remy	P	White	P	Griffin	P	Bliss	P
Blundell	P	Younkin	P	Harmer	P	Tosti	A
Susse	P	Lobel	P	LaCourt	P	Deshler	P
Migliazzo	P	Gibian	P	Jones	P	Carman	P
Beck	P	Foskett	P	Heigham	P	McKenna	P
						Bradley	P

P indicates Present; L indicates late; A indicates Absent

Visitors: JoAnn Robinson (Arlington Historical Commission Co-Chair)

MINUTES

1. The meeting minutes from 3/27/23, as revised, were approved with 15 in favor and three abstaining (Heigham, Remy and Harmer)
2. The meeting minutes from 3/29/23, as revised, were approved with 16 in favor and two abstaining (Jones and Harmer)

BUDGETS, ARTICLES & ITEMS

1. WA 45: Committees & Commissions - Arlington Historical Commission
  - a. Adverting Hearings is biggest expense
  - b. Inventory of Significant and/or Historic Properties needs to be reviewed and they hope to follow review with a mailing to the properties (including a brochure on the AHC)
  - c. Request for increase in budget from \$5,000 (FY23) to \$8,700 (FY24)
  - d. About 1,000 buildings in town are Significant and/or Historic Properties including properties owned by Town. Commission generally has jurisdiction on three sides of the house (unless on a corner), i.e. sides visible from the street. 36 properties had hearings/projects last year.
  - e. VOTE: the committee unanimously approved appropriating \$8,700 to the Arlington Historical Commission
2. Fire Department
  - a. The budget decreased by \$1,811 after finalizing Mechanics salaries
  - b. Budget was initially \$8,654,593 and is now \$8,652,782
  - c. VOTE: the committee unanimously approved the revised Fire Department budget totaling \$8,652,782

3. WA 46: Town Celebrations – 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration
  - a. Two to five thousand dollars for a consultant; \$5,000 for branding
  - b. VOTE: the committee unanimously approved appropriating \$25,000 to the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration
4. WA 54 – Takings for Stratton School Safe Routes
  - a. Can't establish a cost of the takings (not until Fall or Spring) because Mass DOT is behind schedule to assess the takings
  - b. VOTE: the committee voted unanimously to take no action on the Takings for Stratton School Safe Routes article
5. WA 47 – Appropriation/Miscellaneous
  - a. Budget Director Wayman confirmed a correction needed for this budget adjusting to \$10,810 from \$12,035
  - b. VOTE: the committee approved an adjusted budget of \$10,810 for the Miscellaneous article with 17 in favor and one abstaining (McKenna)
6. WA 44 - Minuteman High School
  - a. Minuteman received more state aid than anticipated; an adjusted assessment for Arlington is estimated to be \$300-\$400k lower; timeline of adjusted assessment is unknown
  - b. Memo regarding Athletic Fields: projected rental is under \$250k which could cover the maintenance of fields but not debt of fields
  - c. VOTE: a motion was passed unanimously to approve the budget as presented totaling \$8,932,916 with the stipulation that, should a updated assessment be received before the final Finance Committee report is produced which lowers this budget that the committee authorizes the Chair and Vice Chair Jones to adjust the budget administratively, and that if after the final Finance Committee report has already been produced at the time of receiving an updated assessment the committees authorizes the Chair to amend the budget on the floor of Town Meeting with any adjustments to the assessment being subsequently adjusted in the Override Stabilization Fund
7. WA 60 – Fiscal Stability Stabilization Fund
  - a. VOTE: the committee voted unanimously to approve an appropriation of \$589,800 to be distributed from the stabilization fund to the general fund
8. Elastic Clause
  - a. VOTE: a motion was approved unanimously to grant the Chair and Vice Chair Jones to correct any accounts imbalanced due to errors without needing to come to the committee for a vote during the course of writing the Finance Committee Report to the 2023 Town Meeting

9. Summary

Budget Name	Amount	Status
WA 45 - Historical Commission	8,700	Approved
Fire Department	8,652,782	Approved
WA 46 – 250 <sup>th</sup> Celebration	25,000	Approved
WA 54 – Stratton Safe Schools	No Action	Voted
WA 47 – Miscellaneous	10,810	Approved
WA 44 – Minuteman	8,932,916	Approved
WA 60 - Stabilization	589,800	Approved

Elastic Clause	Approved	Approved
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#### CONCLUSION

The meeting adjourned at 8:34 pm.

The next meeting is Wednesday, April 12th.

Tara Bradley  
4/5/2023

Reference 1: Email \$25k for Menotomy 250 – A Olszewski

Reference 2: Follow-Up on Debt Service Reimbursement (Athletic Fields)

**FW: \$25K for Menotomy 250**

Sandy Pooler <spooler@town.arlington.ma.us>

Mon 4/3/2023 7:08 PM

To: Christine Deshler <christinedeshler@hotmail.com>; Christine Deshler <cdeshler@town.arlington.ma.us>; Tara Bradley <tbradley@town.arlington.ma.us>

Here is the information I received about the 250<sup>th</sup>.

**Sandy Pooler**

Town Manager  
Town of Arlington  
730 Massachusetts Avenue  
Arlington, MA 02476  
(781) 316-3002

*Arlington values diversity, equity, and inclusion. We are committed to building a community where everyone is heard, respected, and protected.*

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**From:** Angela Olszewski <amolszewski@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Monday, April 3, 2023 6:35 PM

**To:** Sandy Pooler <spooler@town.arlington.ma.us>

**Cc:** John V. Hurd, Esq. <john@johnhurdlaw.com>

**Subject:** \$25K for Menotomy 250

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Sandy,

I am writing to you regarding support for the \$25,000 appropriation request for the Semiquincentennial Committee (Menotomy 250). I understand that FinCom has asked about how we would spend the money. I have a question: Would funds remaining revert to the general fund on June 30, 2024 or would they be retained for the committee's use? I served on the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee, which celebrated Arlington's incorporation as a municipality. We had some town money and raised other funds. It was a multi-year celebration. We retained the funds until we dissolved the committee. We then gave the balance remaining to the town.

We are looking at the town's contribution as seed money. We just began meeting, so we don't have specific events planned yet, but we anticipate the following immediate/short-term needs as we plan and prepare:

Estimate of \$2,000 - \$5,000 to hire a consultant who would research and identify a list of potential grant opportunities and possibly help us with some of the grant applications. We know there will be various federal, state, and other funds available. There will also be stiff competition for them. We will need to raise significant funds to be able to support signature events. These costs potentially include augmenting public safety and various visitor amenities.

Estimate of \$5,000 for branding and marketing: Logo design, printing of a banner, postcards, flyers, letterhead, etc. to publicize the committee, gain volunteers, engage the community, and spread the word.

Other potential items:

Matching funds for grants  
Website (Alan Jones has offered to help with this)  
Merchandise  
Honoraria to engage notable speakers for lectures  
Providing funds to community organizations to partner on events  
Funds to sponsor programs with the schools  
Advertising purchases in conjunction with our neighboring communities

We will be communicating and coordinating with neighboring communities. We will have a representative on the state's 250<sup>th</sup> commission. We anticipate that the celebration will bring very large numbers of visitors to the area. We want to be sure that we draw them to events and sites in Arlington. There will be economic impact when they stay in our hotel, eat in our restaurants, and patronize our business districts. We would appreciate the town's commitment of \$25,000 to help us get started.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Thanks,  
Angela



**To:** Arlington Finance Committee  
**From:** Dr. Kathleen A. Dawson, Superintendent  
**Re:** Follow-Up on Debt Service Reimbursement  
**Date:** April 03, 2023

During Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical School District's presentation of the recommended FY24 Budget to the Arlington Finance Committee on March 01, 2023, the Superintendent was asked to inquire with Minuteman's School Committee about the reimbursement for the debt service to cover the lighting for the athletic fields. It was the Finance Committee's understanding that the District was to reimburse Arlington for the debt service from the revenues collected from the rental of the athletic fields.

Upon review and discussion with the School Committee, the District will not be reimbursing Arlington or the other member towns the debt service for the lighting of the athletic fields.

The projections for the revenue from the rental of the athletic fields were much higher than the actual numbers. This was the first full year of rentals and we're only projected to collect \$238,000. This is not enough to cover the debt service and the maintenance of the fields.

If you have any further questions, please contact Dr. Dawson at [kdawson@minuteman.org](mailto:kdawson@minuteman.org) or 781-274-1021 or Minuteman's Business Manager Nikki Andrade at [nandrade@minuteman.org](mailto:nandrade@minuteman.org) or 781-274-1033.

**Cc:** Ms. Pam Nourse, School Committee Chair  
Mr. Steve Ledoux, Finance Committee Chair  
Mr. Michael Ruderman, Arlington School Committee Representative  
Ms. Nikki Andrade, Business Manager